

A NOTE CONCERNING THE COMBINATION *ASTER* SUBGENUS *ASCENDENTES*
(RYDB.) SEMPLE

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The recently published combination *Aster* subgenus *Ascendentes* (Rydb.) Semple (1985) is not validly published, since the author does not accept this particular taxon as a subgenus of *Aster*. Instead he considers the group to be a new genus, *Virgulaster* Semple. The International Code of Botanical Nomenclature (Voss et al., 1983) deals with such a situation in Article 34.1, the first two sections of which read: "A name is not validly published (a) when it is not accepted by the author in the original publication; (b) when it is merely proposed in anticipation of the future acceptance of the group concerned, or of a particular circumscription, or rank of the group (so-called provisional name)"

Thus, the combination *Aster* subgenus *Ascendentes* (Rydb.) Semple is, by Article 34.1(a), not validly published. Furthermore, if it is argued that the combination was published in anticipation of future acceptance of the taxon at subgeneric rank, the combination is invalid by Article 34.1(b).

The privilege of choosing a name for this group, when it is treated as a subgenus of *Aster*—a taxonomic decision that I would be inclined to support—is that of the worker who accepts the taxon at subgeneric rank.

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LITERATURE CITED

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- Voss, E.G. et al. 1983. International Code of Botanical Nomenclature. Bohn, Scheltema, & Holkema, Utrecht.